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PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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berwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a colle

| THARMA | REQUEST |
|---------|-----------------------|
| | FOR |
| CONTINU | IED EXAMINATION (RCE) |
| | TRANSMITTAL |

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| ection of information unless it displays a valid ONB control number. | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Application Number | 09/176,274 | |
| Filing Date | October 21, 1998 | |
| First Named Inventor | Hidaki Ohshima et al. | |
| Group Art Unit | 2672 | |
| Examiner Name | J. Brier | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 00862.002492. | |

| This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice. | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 | | | |
| a. X Previously submitted | | | |
| i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on May 1, 2006 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on Other | | | |
| b. X Enclosed | | | |
| i. Amendment/Reply ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Other Petition for one-month extension of time | | | |
| 2. Miscellaneous | | | |
| a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) | | | |
| b. | | | |
| 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. | | | |
| a. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. | | | |
| i. X RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) | 06/06/2006 NHGUYEN1 00000026 09176274 | | |
| ii. X Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) | 01 FC:1801 790.00 OP | | |
| iii. Under b. X Checks in the amounts of \$ 790.00 (RCE) and \$120.00 (| extension) are enclosed | | |
| c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed) | | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED | | | |
| | ation No. (Attorney/Agent) 42,419 | | |
| Signature Date | May 31, 2006 | | |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION | | | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: May 31, 2006 | | | |
| Name (Print/Type) Frank L. Cire, Reg. No. 42,419 | | | |
| Signature Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Times to the complete of the complete | Date May 31, 2006 | | |
| comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. | | | |

Form #161